

THE NEW COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Exclamations of astonishment and delight were freely indulged in by the students of our commercial department, when, after their return from the Christmas holidays, they entered their newly-fitted up quarters. During the absence of the students, carpenters and painters were busy, and well they worked, for indeed the offices of this department have undergone a wonderful transformation, and it is safe to assert, that the students now possess facilities for acquiring a thorough practical business training second to none in the Dominion. Entering the department, our attention is attracted by the familiar clicking noticed in telegraph offices, and, sure enough, right before us is an elegantly equipped office; and on the black-walnut frieze running along the office front we see in raised gold letters the words: "Telegraph Office." Here the students are trained in the use of the telegram in the business world. We see embryo merchants writing out despatches on the printed blanks of the "College Telegraph Co." Messenger boys are carrying despatches to the various offices with a lethargy that is not surpassed by their prototypes of the metropolis.

All the offices are similar in finish, and from a description of the telegraph office an idea of the others may be formed. The wood work is in white oak and black walnut. The lower portion consists of the counter or table usually seen in telegraph offices, containing the keys, sounders, relays and other apparatus required in telegraphy. From the front of this counter rise four black walnut columns, supporting a massive entablature in ornamental wood-work.

Above the capitals we see a handsomely carved architrave; then the frieze work bearing the office name; the whole surmounted by a black walnut cornice.

A heavy wire screen runs from column to column around the office; and above the center department arises an elegant crest. The next office is occupied by the "Express Co.," and here the duties and

obligations of carriers are taught.

Along in order come the offices assigned to "Jobbers and Importers," "Real Estate Agency," with its lists of imaginary property described in glowing terms, "Merchants Emporium," and "Stationery." The next office seems to have an attraction; for there is quite a gathering about it; we look up and find we are now in the "Stock Exchange." Here the youthful "bulls and bears" toss up and tear down the securities and stocks of the various College companies as ardently and zealously as the habitués of Wall St.

Leaving this scene of excitement, we stop for a calendar at the "Insurance Office" and pass the "Post Office" where we see the customary lists and notices, even the announcement of the office hours of the Money order and Registration departments. The next office is that of the "Notary Public" with its bulletin board, containing a few of those announcements so ominous in mercantile life.

Close by we enter the "Bank" with its compartments occupied respectively by the paying teller, cashier, and receiving teller. This completes our tour, and impresses us with the idea that the College authorities in providing such elegant and commodious apartments for its commercial school, not only merit, but will receive success.

In fitting for mercantile pursuits, no method can be so conducive to success as that employed in the College of Ottawa.

Here each boy in his turn occupies one of the various offices and then is made acquainted with its inner workings.

They are supplied with bills, currency, check books, and all the printed blanks met with in the business world; and are taught how to use them. The best test of the utility of the method is the success of our graduates in commercial life, which we hope to note from time to time in its proper column in our journal.

In order that we may do this, we request all our readers to furnish us, from time to time, with any items of interest concerning our commercial graduates that may come to their notice.